

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

By Senator Turney:

"Amend by striking out the word 'one-fourth' in line 14, page 1, and insert in lieu thereof 'one-half.'"

No quorum, the following voting:

Yeas—14.

Atlee.	Odell.
Davidson.	Potter.
Dibrell.	Ross.
Greer.	Turney.
James.	Wayland.
Kerr.	Yantis.
Lloyd.	Yett.

Nays—6.

Burns.	Morriss.
Hanger.	Sebastian.
Lewis.	Stone.

Absent.

Goss.	McGee.
Gough.	Patterson.
Grinnan.	Stafford.
Johnson.	Terrell.
Linn.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

On motion of Senator Yantis, the Senate adjourned until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

FIFTIETH DAY.

Senate Chamber,

Austin, Texas, Tuesday, March 21, 1899.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Lieutenant-Governor Browning in the chair.

Roll called. Quorum present, the following Senators answering to their names:

Atlee.	Lloyd.
Burns.	Morriss.
Davidson.	Odell.
Dibrell.	Patterson.
Goss.	Potter.
Gough.	Ross.
Greer.	Sebastian.
Grinnan.	Stone.
Hanger.	Terrell.
James.	Turney.
Johnson.	Wayland.
Kerr.	Yantis.
Lewis.	Yett.

Absent.

Linn.	Stafford.
McGee.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Den-son.

Pending the reading of the Journal of yesterday,

On motion of Senator Patterson, the same was dispensed with.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE.

(Vetoing Senate bill No. 193.)

The following message from the Governor was received, read, and, on motion of Senator Atlee, referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements, to wit:

To the Senate.

In returning Senate bill No. 193, I submit the following reasons for withholding from it my approval:

1. The distance from Tyler to Galveston, the principal gulf port of the State, via the International & Great Northern Railway is 265 miles; that over the St. Louis Southwestern Railway to Corsicana, thence over the Houston & Texas Central Railway is 335 miles; and that over the Tyler Southeastern Railway to Lufkin, thence over the Houston East & West Texas Railway is 257 miles. It cannot be doubted that the International & Great Northern and the St. Louis Southwestern Railways are parts of the same system, and are practically under one and the same control. It is also true that the Tyler Southeastern Railway is a competitor with the other two roads named for all traffic and travel between Tyler and Galveston. This being so, the consolidation, for which the pending measure provides, comes within the inhibition imposed by Section 5, Article X, of the Constitution as interpreted by the Supreme Court in the case of the East Line & Red River Railway Company vs. The State of Texas, Volume 75, Supreme Court Reports.

The fact that the Tyler Southeastern Railway only extends to Lufkin—a distance of but 88.61 miles from Tyler—does not become a factor in the case, because under Section 1, Article X, of the Constitution, it has the right to intersect, connect with or cross the Houston East & West Texas Railway, which passes through Lufkin, thence to Houston, and it is made the duty of the Houston East & West Texas Line to receive and transport the passengers, tonnage and cars, loaded or empty, without delay or discrimination, of the Tyler Southeastern Railway. It cannot but be evident to every one, who will consider the question for a moment, that if the pending bill should become law the probable, if not certain effect, will be to destroy all competition between Tyler and Galveston in the matter of railway traffic and travel,

and force it over the International & Great Northern Railway or the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, both of which roads, as I have already stated, belong to the same system and are controlled by the same persons. Having already, in a former message, presented my views touching the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of the East Line & Red River Railway Company vs. The State of Texas, I need not repeat them here.

2. I am advised that the mortgage records of McLennan county show subsisting and uncanceled deeds of trust covering all the lines of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, having a total length of about 572.5 miles, to secure the payment of \$14,167,500, exclusive of interest. These mortgages not only embrace all of the property of whatever character and description owned by the St. Louis Southwestern Railway Company at the time of their execution, but also every kind and character of property that may thereafter be acquired. The length of the Tyler Southeastern Railway is 88.61 miles, and its net indebtedness, as shown in the Sixth Annual Report of the Railroad Commission, was \$1,246,156.80, or \$14,064.97 per mile, on June 30, 1897. It is not probable that this indebtedness has materially decreased, if at all, since that date. Should the consolidation take place, as contemplated in the bill, the Tyler Southeastern Railway will become subject to said deeds of trust and, limiting its liability thereunder to its proportional share of the indebtedness secured by them, its obligations will become thereby increased to at least \$23,315.16 per mile, as against \$14,064.97 per mile at the present time, and that too, by the mere operation of law and without any consideration whatever accruing to it. As respects this road, such a policy upon the part of the State cannot be considered wise even from a sound financial standpoint, to say nothing of its evident ill effects in other very important directions.

JOSEPH D. SAYERS,
Governor.

HOUSE MESSAGE.

The following message was received from the House:

Hall of the House of Representatives,
- Austin, Texas, March 21, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate.

I am directed by the House to inform the Senate of the passage of the following bills:

House bill No. 578, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to fix the time for holding the courts in the Fiftieth Judicial District, and to repeal all laws in conflict herewith."

Also House bill No. 538, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend an act entitled 'An Act to incorporate the city of Waco, and to define its boundaries and powers,' approved February 19, 1889."

Also House bill No. 555, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend an act passed by the Twenty-fifth Legislature in the year 1897, entitled 'An Act to amend Subdivision 15, of Article 22, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, relative to the time of holding the terms of the district court of the Fifteenth Judicial District of Texas, passed by the Twenty-fourth Legislature in the year 1895, and to repeal all laws in conflict with this act,' providing for the selection and empaneling of grand juries for the January term of said court, and to repeal all laws in conflict with this act."

Also House bill No. 679, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Chapter 65, of the Acts of the Twenty-fifth Legislature, being 'An Act to create a more efficient road system for Montague, Red River and Wichita counties in the State of Texas, and making county commissioners of said counties ex-officio road commissioners, and prescribing their duties as such, and providing for their compensation as road commissioners, and defining the powers and duties of the commissioners courts of said counties, and fixing a penalty for the violation of this act, and to repeal all laws in conflict with this act.'"

Also House bill No. 621, A bill to be entitled "An Act to create a more efficient road system for Nacogdoches county, Texas, and making the county commissioners of said county ex-officio road commissioners, and prescribing their duties as such, and providing for their compensation as road commissioners, and providing for the appointment of road overseers and defining their duties, and for the working of county convicts upon the roads of said county, and providing for officers' fees and rewards for the capture of escaped convicts, and authorizing the working of county convicts partly upon the county convict farm as well as upon the public roads, or partly upon both, in the discretion of the commissioners court, and making provision of act applicable, as far as practicable, to convicts when worked on county farms, and to provide for the summoning of teams for road work, and for an allowance of time for the service of same, and fixing a penalty for a violation of this act, and repeal all laws in conflict with this act as to Nacog-

doches county, and to authorize the commissioners court of Nacogdoches county, to create the office of superintendent of public roads and bridges for Nacogdoches county, and defining his duties and providing for compensation of said superintendent, and prescribing bond to be given by said officer; providing that delinquent poll tax payers shall be subject to three days road duty; providing for the condemnation of any land needed for the widening, straightening, changing or draining of roads; providing for the taking of timber, gravel, earth, stone, or other necessary material for the improvement of roads, and giving persons summoned to work on roads the right to be relieved from the discharge of such duty on the payment of specific sums of money herein stipulated."

Also House bill No. 710, A bill to be entitled "An Act to create a more efficient road system for Bell county, Texas, and making the county commissioners of said county ex-officio road commissioners, and prescribing their duties as such, and providing for their compensation as such road commissioners and providing for the working of county convicts upon the public roads of said county, and providing for commutation of time for good behavior and good service, and providing for a reward to be offered for the recapture of an escaped county convict, and taxing said reward and all actual costs of capture and delivery of said convict against said convict, and providing for a penalty for the escape of a county convict, and providing for the trimming of hedges by the owners of said land, and providing a penalty for failure to trim said hedges, and providing the amount of compensation in road time to be allowed by overseers to road hands for teams, plows, scrapers and wagons, and providing for the condemnation of land for public road purposes, and providing for the working of delinquent poll tax payers on the public roads and relieving them from the payment of said work by the payment of the sum of three dollars, and providing further, making this law cumulative of the general laws, and in case of a conflict this act to govern as to Bell county, Texas."

Respectfully,

LEE J. ROUNTREE,

Chief Clerk House of Representatives.

IN SENATE.

The above reported House bills were read first time, and referred as follows:

House bill No. 578, to the Committee on Judicial Districts.

House bill No. 555, to the Committee on Judicial Districts.

House bill No. 621, to the Committee on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.

House bill No. 679, to the Committee on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.

House bill No. 710, to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

House bill No. 538, to the Committee on Towns and City Corporations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 21, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate.

SIR: Your Committee on Towns and City Corporations, to whom was referred

Senate bill No. 273, being a bill to be entitled "An Act to amend an act entitled 'An Act to incorporate the city of Paris, and to prescribe its duties and liabilities,' adopted by the Twenty-first Legislature of Texas, and approved March 27, 1889, by amending Section 4 of said act, so as to make all offices created by said act elective by the qualified voters of said city,"

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that it *do* pass, and further recommend that the bill be not printed.

ATLEE, Acting Chairman.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 20, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate.

SIR: Your Committee on Public Debts, Claims and Accounts, to whom was referred

Senate bill No. 259, being a bill to be entitled "An Act making an appropriation for the payment of claim of Isaac Lemmon for corn furnished the Army of the Republic of Texas during the Cherokee Indian War in 1839,"

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that it *do not* pass.

KERR, Acting Chairman.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT.

Austin, Texas, March 20, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate.

SIR: As members of the committee sent to Gatesville to investigate the condition and management of the House of Correction and Reformatory at that place, and while in our report we did not in any sense criticise the late administration, beg leave to say that we have a

letter from Senator C. A. Culberson, in which he makes the following statements:

"1. The only complaint which ever came to me so far as I remember or as shown by the official letter-books in the Governor's office, of the treatment of the inmates, was made through Dr. J. H. Ball of Crystal Falls. It was at once referred to the Board through Mr. Rogers, a member, and as you will see from the copy of the letter enclosed, written by me to Mr. Rogers, the supposed author of this complaint denied ever having made the charges.

"2. So far as I remember, and so far as shown by the official letter-books of the Governor's office, the only complaint ever made to me by Mr. I. W. Culp, now a member of the House of Representatives and the investigating committee, was that referred to in the copy of a letter enclosed, dated March 3, 1898; and from this you will see that the board of trustees and superintendent promptly dismissed the person complained of.

"3. You will observe from the copy of the letter dated January 1, 1897, to Hon. W. C. O'Bryan, chairman of the board of trustees, and who has been re-appointed to that position, I earnestly recommended, first, the importance of the institution paying greater attention to reformatory rather than prison features; and, second, referring to complaints against the management, I asked that there should be no business dealings between the officials of the Reformatory and relatives, and none between the management of the institution and any of the officials themselves.

"After reading the report of your committee, I wrote to the stenographer in the Governor's office and asked him to send me copies of all letters written to C. A. Rogers, I. W. Culp, W. C. O'Bryan, and J. F. McGuire between January 15, 1895, and January 17, 1899, the period in which I served as Governor; and the four copies enclosed are the only ones which bear upon the questions considered in the report."

The following are the letters referred to in the above communication.

Very respectfully,

DAVIDSON,
WAYLAND,
Committee.

(Copies.)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
STATE OF TEXAS.
Austin, July 21, 1896.

Mr. C. A. Rogers, Gatesville, Texas.

DEAR SIR: I have a letter from Dr. J. H. Ball, of Crystal Falls, in which he

states that Rev. John Rister, of Gatesville, "at odd hours calls his congregation together and lectures to them concerning the management of the State Reformatory at Gatesville, picturing to them in the darkest dyes the cruel manner in which the inmates are treated." I do not know Mr. Rister, but call your attention to his statement for such action as under the circumstances may be deemed proper by you as a member of the board. I will thank you to show this letter to Superintendent McGuire.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) C. A. CULBERSON,
Governor.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
STATE OF TEXAS.
Austin, August 7, 1896.

Mr. C. A. Rogers, Gatesville, Texas.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 4th inst., enclosing letters from Rev. Rister, was duly received, and I am glad to know that there is nothing in the report that charges had been made against the management of the Reformatory. Of course you understand that I had no knowledge on the subject, and simply referred the matter to the board that it might be cleared up.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) C. A. CULBERSON,
Governor.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
STATE OF TEXAS,
Austin, January 9, 1897.

Hon. W. C. O'Bryan, McGregor, Texas.

DEAR SIR: I have been thinking for some time of writing you as chairman of the board of trustees of the Reformatory, but in consequence of pressing business here have been unable to do so. I beg now to make the following suggestions, which you can lay before the board and superintendent:

(1) It seems to me that there can be improvement in the affairs of the institution, for the trend of the management is more toward the reformatory than the prison. Of course I understand very well that this is the general purpose of the management, but it has occurred to me that something more in this direction could be done by gradually ameliorating the prison features and adding to the other.

(2) While I do not believe any of the complaints that have been made against the management, yet to guard against the appearance of wrong and to obviate criticism, I believe there should be no business dealings between officials of the Reformatory and relatives and none be-

tween the management of the institution and any of the officials themselves. If anything such as this exists, while I am sure nothing improper has occurred, yet it is to the interest of the institution, as well as every one connected with it, that any apparent opportunity for wrong doing should be removed.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) C. A. CULBERSON,
Governor.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
STATE OF TEXAS,
Austin, March 3, 1898.

Mr. I. W. Culp, Gatesville, Texas.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of February 25th, containing complaint against the Reformatory at Gatesville is received and has been duly considered. On inquiry, I find that the board of trustees and the superintendent have dismissed both McElroy and Bush, and I take it this is all I can do under the circumstances with reference to these men.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) C. A. CULBERSON,
Governor.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 21, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate.

SIR: Your Committee on Judicial Districts, to whom was referred

Senate bill No. 280, being a bill to be entitled "An Act to change and fix the times of holding courts in the Fifty-fourth Judicial District, and to amend an Act passed at the Regular Session of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of Texas, being a bill entitled 'An Act to change the time of holding courts in the Fifty-fourth Judicial District,'"

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that it *do pass*.

DAVIDSON, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 21, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate.

SIR: Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred

Senate bill No. 270, being a bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 2908, Chapter 6, Title LII, Revised Statutes of the State of Texas, and to provide the qualifications of the Commissioner of Agriculture, Insurance, Statistics and History,"

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the

same back to the Senate with the recommendation that it *do pass*.

DIBRELL, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 21, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate.

SIR: Your Committee on Towns and City Corporations, to whom was referred Senate bill No. 268, being a bill to be entitled "An Act to amend the charter of the city of Houston,"

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that it *do pass*.

ATLEE, Acting Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 21, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate.

SIR: Your Committee on Engrossed Bills have carefully examined and compared

Senate bill No. 224, being a bill to be entitled "An Act to create a commission to be known as the Texas State Historical Commission, and to define the duties and powers of said commission,"

And find the same correctly engrossed.

JAMES, Chairman.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Senator Turney:

Senate bill No. 278, A bill to be entitled "An Act for the better preservation of all of the personal property belonging to the State of Texas, or in which it has an interest, or of any of the departments, or any of the institutions, asylums, schools, penitentiaries, farms or personal property of whatsoever description or wherever situated, belonging to this State or in which it has an interest, and to provide for the making of lists and inventories of all said property and the copying of the same and the regulation thereof; and to prescribe the duties of the officers and persons having said property under their control, and to fix the liability of such officers and persons, and to provide a penalty for the failure to comply with this act, and to fix the venue of suits and prosecutions for a violation of any of its provisions."

Read first time, and referred to the Committee on State Affairs.

By Senator Davidson:

Senate bill No. 279, A bill to be entitled "An Act to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery; to license physicians, surgeons and midwives, and to punish

persons violating the provisions thereof in the State of Texas."

Read first time, and referred to the Committee on Public Health.

By Senator Yantis:

Senate bill No. 280, A bill to be entitled "An Act to change and fix the times of holding courts in the Fifty-fourth Judicial District, and to amend an Act passed at the Regular Session of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of Texas, being a bill entitled 'An Act to change the time of holding courts in the Fifty-fourth Judicial District,' known as House bill No. 167 during its passage."

Read first time, and referred to the Committee on Judicial Districts.

By Senator Sebastian:

Senate bill No. 281, A bill to be entitled "An Act fixing the times for holding the terms of court in the Thirty-fourth Judicial District, and to repeal all laws in conflict with this act."

Read first time, and referred to the Committee on Judicial Districts.

By Senator Dibrell:

Senate bill No. 282, A bill to be entitled "An Act to appropriate \$100,000 to pay the officers and men of the Texas volunteers prior to their mustering into the service of the United States in the late war with Spain; to pay those who were rejected, to pay for the necessary supplies, subsistence, transportation prior to their being mustered into service; to authorize the Governor to collect from the United States all monies expended under this act."

Read first time, and referred to the Committee on State Affairs.

Call concluded.

On motion of Senator Turney, the pending business (Senate bill No. 199, convict parole bill) was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 236, A bill to be entitled "An Act to validate and quiet titles to public free school, university and asylum lands sold prior to January 1, 1899, to provide for patents and to prescribe limitation for bringing suits for the recovery of such land."

The bill was read a second time, and on motion of Senator Turney, laid on the table subject to call.

On motion of Senator Ross, the pending business (Senate bill No. 199, convict parole bill) was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 273, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend 'An Act to incorporate the city of Paris, and to prescribe its duties and liabilities,' adopted by the Twenty-first Legislature of Texas, and approved March 27, 1899, by amending

Section 4 of said act so as to make all officers created by said act elective by the qualified voters of said city."

The bill was read a second time.

By Senator Ross:

"Amend page 1, line 7, by inserting after the word 'Texas' the words 'Section first,' and in line 6, page 2, insert before the word 'second' the word 'Section.'"

Adopted.

On motion of Senator Ross, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill placed upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—26.

Atlee.	Lloyd.
Burns.	Morriss.
Davidson.	Odell.
Dibrell.	Patterson.
Goss.	Potter.
Gough.	Ross.
Greer.	Sebastian.
Grinnan.	Stone.
Hanger.	Terrell.
James.	Turney.
Johnson.	Wayland.
Kerr.	Yantis.
Lewis.	Yett.

Absent.

Linn.	Stafford.
McGee.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller.	Neal.
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The bill was read a third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—26.

Atlee.	Lloyd.
Burns.	Morriss.
Davidson.	Odell.
Dibrell.	Patterson.
Goss.	Potter.
Gough.	Ross.
Greer.	Sebastian.
Grinnan.	Stone.
Hanger.	Terrell.
James.	Turney.
Johnson.	Wayland.
Kerr.	Yantis.
Lewis.	Yett.

Absent.

Linn.	Stafford.
McGee.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller.	Neal.
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PENDING BUSINESS.

On motion of Senator Stone pending business,

Senate bill No. 199, A bill to be entitled "An Act to confer authority on the Penitentiary Board to issue paroles to mer-

itorious convicts, and to make and establish rules and regulations to carry the same into effect," was postponed until Friday next after call, and the bill made special order for that hour.

On motion of Senator Yantis the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 227, A bill to be entitled "An Act to locate the Court of Criminal Appeals at Austin; to regulate the appointment of a clerk, bailiff, stenographer and porter, and to provide for the disposition of the property of said court at Tyler and Dallas; being an act to amend Articles 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78 and 79, of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and to add thereto Articles 73a and 79b, and to repeal Articles 1050 and 1051, of Title XXVII, of Chapter 23, and Articles 1055, 1056, 1057, 1058 and 1059, Chapter 25, Revised Civil Code."

The bill was read a second time (in full at request of Senator Greer).

By Senator Yantis:

"Amend by adding on page 2, at the end of the bill, the following:

"The crowded condition of the calendar and the near approach of the close of the session, and the fact that the present law fixing the places for holding court by the Court of Criminal Appeals interferes with the dispatch of business by said court, and incurs unnecessary expense, creates an imperative public necessity and an emergency that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days be suspended, and that this act take effect from and after its passage, and it is so enacted."

Adopted.

Pending action on engrossment, Senator Hanger moved to postpone further consideration of the bill until Thursday next after the call of House bills for that day, and that the bill be made a special order for that hour.

So ordered by the following vote:

Yeas—21.

Atlee.	Morriss.
Burns.	Odell.
Goss.	Patterson.
Gough.	Potter.
Greer.	Ross.
Grinnan.	Sebastian.
Hanger.	Stone.
James.	Terrell.
Johnson.	Turney.
Lewis.	Wayland.
Lloyd.	

Nays—5.

Davidson.	Yantis.
Dibrell.	Yett.
Kerr.	

Absent.

Linn. Stafford.
McGee.

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

On motion of Senator Turney the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 248, A bill to be entitled "An Act to reorganize the Forty-first Judicial District of Texas; to prescribe the time of holding the district court therein; to make the terms of the Thirty-fourth Judicial District in El Paso county to conform thereto; and to provide for a clerk for the district court of the Forty-first Judicial District in said El Paso county, and empowering the district court of the Thirty-fourth Judicial District to empanel the grand jury for said county, and giving authority to the judges of either of said two courts in said El Paso county, to transfer causes from their respective courts to the other of said courts, and to repeal all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith."

The bill was read a second time.

By Senator Turney:

"Amend by adding after Section 2, the following:

"Section 3. That all process, writs and bonds issued or executed prior to the taking effect of this act and returnable to the terms of said court, as now fixed by law, in the several counties composing said district, are hereby made returnable to the terms of said courts as fixed in this act; and all process heretofore returned, as well as all bonds and recognizances heretofore entered into in any of said courts, shall be as valid as if no change had been made in the time of holding said courts."

"And change number of sections to correspond."

Adopted.

The bill as amended was ordered engrossed.

On motion of Senator Turney, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill placed upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—23.

Atlee.	Lloyd.
Burns.	Morriss.
Davidson.	Odell.
Dibrell.	Patterson.
Greer.	Potter.
Grinnan.	Ross.
Hanger.	Sebastian.
James.	Stone.
Kerr.	Terrell.
Lewis.	Turney.

Wayland. Yett.
Yantis.

Absent.

Goss. Linn.
Gough. McGee.
Johnson. Stafford.

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

The bill was read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Senator Grinnan the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on third reading,

Senate bill No. 183, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Articles 3972, 3973, 3973a, 3973b, 3973c, 3973d, 3974 (1) and (2), 3974a, 3974b, 3974c, 3974d, 3976, 3976a, 3976b, 3976c, 3980 and 3980a, Chapter 13, Title LXXXVI, Revised Civil Statutes, 1895, relating to boards of examiners and teachers."

The bill was read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Senator Davidson the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on third reading,

Senate bill No. 117, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend an act entitled 'An Act to amend Sections 1069 and 1070, and Sections 2 and 3, of the Acts of the Special Session of the Twenty-fifth Legislature,' approved June 19, 1897, and to provide for the compensation and mode of payment of special judges, appointed or selected thereunder, and to provide for the trial of cases by such special judges."

The bill was read a third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—21.

Burns.	Odell.
Davidson.	Patterson.
Dibrell.	Potter.
Greer.	Ross.
Grinnan.	Sebastian.
Hanger.	Stone.
James.	Terrell.
Kerr.	Turney.
Lewis.	Yantis.
Lloyd.	Yett.
Morriss.	

Absent.

Atlee.	Linn.
Goss.	McGee.
Gough.	Stafford.
Johnson.	Wayland.

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

On motion of Senator Lewis the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 218, A bill to be entitled

"An Act authorizing the board of managers of the Southwest Texas Lunatic Asylum at San Antonio, Texas, in conjunction with the Governor of the State of Texas, to lease the sulphur water flowing from the artesian wells on the grounds belonging to said asylum."

The bill was read a second time (in full at request of Senator Lewis).

By Senator Lewis:

"Amend page 2, Section 5, line 5, by adding after the word 'and' the following, 'an imperative.'"

Adopted.

The bill as amended was ordered engrossed.

On motion of Senator Lewis, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill placed upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—23.

Atlee.	Morriss.
Burns.	Odell.
Davidson.	Patterson.
Dibrell.	Potter.
Greer.	Ross.
Grinnan.	Sebastian.
Hanger.	Stone.
James.	Terrell.
Johnson.	Wayland.
Kerr.	Yantis.
Lewis.	Yett.
Lloyd.	

Absent.

Goss.	McGee.
Gough.	Stafford.
Linn.	Turney.

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

The bill was read a third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—22.

Atlee.	Lewis.
Burns.	Morriss.
Davidson.	Odell.
Dibrell.	Patterson.
Goss.	Potter.
Gough.	Ross.
Greer.	Sebastian.
Grinnan.	Stone.
Hanger.	Terrell.
James.	Wayland.
Kerr.	Yantis.

Absent.

Johnson.	Stafford.
Linn.	Turney.
Lloyd.	Yett.
McGee.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

BILLS SIGNED.

The Chair gave notice of signing, and did sign, in the presence of the Senate, after their captions had been read:

House bill No. 173, "An Act to create a more efficient road system for Parker county, Texas, and making the county commissioners of said county ex-officio road commissioners, and prescribing their duties as such, and providing for their compensation as road commissioners, and providing for the appointment of road overseers and defining their duties, and for the working of county convicts upon the roads of said county, and providing for officers' fees and rewards for the capture of escaped convicts, and authorizing the working of county convicts partly upon the county convict farm, as well as upon the public roads, or partly upon both, in the discretion of the commissioners court, and making provision of act applicable as far as practicable to convicts when worked on county farms, and to provide for the summoning of teams for road work, and for an allowance of time of road service for same, and fixing a penalty for a violation of this act, and to repeal all laws in conflict with this act, as to Parker county, and to authorize the commissioners court of Parker county to create the office of superintendent of public roads and highways for Parker county, and to provide for the election of said superintendent, and defining his duties, and providing for compensation for said superintendent, when elected, and prescribing bond to be given by said officer; providing for the condemnation of any land needed for the widening, straightening, changing or draining of roads; providing for the taking of timber, gravel, earth, stone or other necessary material for the improvement of roads, and giving persons summoned to work upon roads the right to be relieved from the discharge of such duty on the payment of specific sums of money herein stipulated; providing for the collection of such sums of money by road overseers, and prescribing penalties for failure to comply with the provisions of this act."

House bill No. 441, "An Act to transfer Rains and Grimes counties from the community school system, and to authorize and empower the said counties to organize and conduct all of their free schools under the district system as provided by the laws now in force."

(Senator Potter in the chair.)

On motion of Senator Odell the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 223, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 4445, of the

Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, and to authorize railroad corporations to acquire new right of way for the purpose of shortening the line or reducing the grades."

The bill was read a second time.

By Senator Greer:

"Amend by adding at the end of line 29, the following: 'Provided further, that no change of the line through any incorporated city or town, or which will result in the abandonment of any station or depot, shall be made except upon written order of the Railroad Commission of Texas authorizing said change.'"

Adopted.

By Senator Dibrell:

"Amend the bill in line 16, by striking out the following: 'Or water in any spring thereon.'"

Adopted.

The bill as amended was ordered engrossed.

On motion of Senator Odell, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill placed upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—22.

Atlee.	Morriss.
Burns.	Odell.
Davidson.	Potter.
Dibrell.	Ross.
Greer.	Sebastian.
Grinnan.	Stone.
Hanger.	Terrell.
James.	Turney.
Kerr.	Wayland.
Lewis.	Yantis.
Lloyd.	Yett.

Absent.

Goss.	McGee.
Gough.	Patterson.
Johnson.	Stafford.
Linn.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller.	Neal.
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The bill was read a third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—24.

Atlee.	Morriss.
Burns.	Odell.
Davidson.	Patterson.
Dibrell.	Potter.
Greer.	Ross.
Grinnan.	Sebastian.
Hanger.	Stone.
James.	Terrell.
Johnson.	Turney.
Kerr.	Wayland.
Lewis.	Yantis.
Lloyd.	Yett.

Absent—Excused.

Miller.

Neal.

Senator Odell moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and to lay that motion on the table.

Tabled.

On motion of Senator Atlee the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on third reading,

Senate bill No. 224, A bill to be entitled "An Act to create a commission to be known as the Texas State Historical Commission, and to define the duties and powers of said commission."

The bill was read a third time (in full at request of Senator Dibrell).

By Senator Atlee:

"Strike out all after 'Texas' in lines 11 and 12, and insert the following: 'The Secretary of State and the President of the State University.'"

Adopted.

By Senator Atlee:

"Strike out all of Section 4, after the word 'building' in line 29, page 2."

Adopted.

The bill failed on final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—8.

Atlee.	Potter.
Burns.	Ross.
Greer.	Stone.
Kerr.	Turney.

Nays—13.

Davidson.	Odell.
Dibrell.	Patterson.
Grinnan.	Terrell.
James.	Wayland.
Johnson.	Yantis.
Lloyd.	Yett.
Morriss.	

Present—Not voting.

Sebastian.

Absent.

Goss.	Linn.
Gough.	McGee.
Hanger.	Stafford.
Lewis.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller.

Neal.

(Lieutenant-Governor Browning in the chair.)

On motion of Senator Yantis the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 280, A bill to be entitled "An Act to change and fix the times of holding courts in the Fifty-fourth Judicial District, and to amend an act passed at the Regular Session of the Twenty-sixth Legislature, being a bill entitled

"An Act to change the time of holding courts in the Fifty-fourth Judicial District," known as House bill No. 167, during its passage."

Senator Yantis moved that the rule requiring bills to lie on the table for one day after being reported be suspended, and that the bill be placed on its second reading.

Suspended by the following vote:

Yeas—21.

Atlee.	Odell.
Burns.	Patterson.
Davidson.	Potter.
Dibrell.	Ross.
Greer.	Sebastian.
Grinnan.	Stone.
James.	Terrell.
Kerr.	Turney.
Lewis.	Yantis.
Lloyd.	Yett.
Morriss.	

Absent.

Goss.	Linn.
Gough.	McGee.
Hanger.	Stafford.
Johnson.	Wayland.

Absent—Excused.

Miller.

Neal.

The bill was read a second time, and ordered engrossed.

On motion of Senator Yantis, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill placed upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—21.

Burns.	Odell.
Davidson.	Patterson.
Dibrell.	Potter.
Greer.	Ross.
Grinnan.	Sebastian.
James.	Stone.
Johnson.	Terrell.
Kerr.	Turney.
Lewis.	Yantis.
Lloyd.	Yett.
Morriss.	

Absent.

Goss.	McGee.
Gough.	Stafford.
Hanger.	Wayland.
Linn.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller.

Neal.

The bill was read a third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—24.

Atlee.	Dibrell.
Burns.	Greer.
Davidson.	Grinnan.

Hanger.	Potter.
James.	Ross.
Johnson.	Sebastian.
Kerr.	Stone.
Lewis.	Terrell.
Lloyd.	Turney.
Morriss.	Wayland.
Odell.	Yantis.
Patterson.	Yett.

Absent.

Goss.	McGee.
Gough.	Stafford.
Linn.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller.	Neal.
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Senator Yantis moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and to lay that motion on the table.

Tabled.

BILLS SIGNED.

The Chair gave notice of signing and did sign in the presence of the Senate, after their captions had been read,

Senate bill No. 64, "An Act for the better protection of the farmer in the purchase of commercial fertilizers, and for other purposes."

Senate bill No. 176, "An Act to amend 'An Act to incorporate the city of Paris, and to prescribe its duties and liabilities,' adopted by the Twenty-first Legislature of Texas, and approved March 27, 1889, by amending Section 25 of said act, and adding Section 31a thereto."

On motion of Senator Terrell, the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 265, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 3964, of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1895, as amended by the Twenty-fifth Legislature, and providing for taking the scholastic census biennially."

The bill was read a second time, and ordered engrossed.

Senator Terrell moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days, and that the bill be placed upon its third reading and final passage.

Lost by the following vote (requiring affirmative four-fifths vote):

Yeas—16.

Atlee.	Morriss.
Burns.	Potter.
Davidson.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Sebastian.
Grinnan.	Stone.
James.	Terrell.
Kerr.	Turney.
Lewis.	Wayland.

Nays—7.

Greer.	Patterson.
Hanger.	Yantis.
Johnson.	Yett.
Odell.	

Absent.

Goss.	McGee.
Gough.	Stafford.
Linn.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller.	Neal.
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On motion of Senator Greer, the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 233, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Section 23 of 'An Act to fix certain civil fees to be charged by certain county and precinct officers, and to fix and limit the fees and compensation of the clerks of the district courts, district attorneys, county attorneys, sheriffs and constables in felony cases, to be paid by the State, and to fix the compensation of assessors and collectors of taxes, and to limit and regulate the compensation of assessors and collectors of taxes, and to limit and regulate the compensation of the sheriff, clerk of the county court, county judge, district and county attorney, clerk of the district court, assessor and collector of taxes, justices of the peace and constables, and to prescribe penalties for the violations of this act, and to repeal all laws in conflict herewith,' approved June 16, 1897, so as to fix and limit the compensation of clerks of the county courts for certain purposes."

The bill was read a second time, with favorable majority and adverse minority committee reports.

(*There was no motion to substitute the minority for the majority report.*)

By Senator Yantis:

"Amend by striking out '12½,' in line 7, page 2, and insert in lieu thereof '10.'"

Lost by the following vote:

Yeas—4.

Davidson.	Odell.
Grinnan.	Yantis.

Nays—20.

Atlee.	Morriss.
Burns.	Patterson.
Dibrell.	Potter.
Greer.	Ross.
Hanger.	Sebastian.
James.	Stone.
Johnson.	Terrell.
Kerr.	Turney.
Lewis.	Wayland.
Lloyd.	Yett.

Absent.

Goss. McGee.
Gough. Stafford.
Linn.

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

Senator Yantis moved to adjourn until 3 p. m. today.

Senator Davidson moved to adjourn until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

The Senate refused to adjourn until 10 a. m. tomorrow by the following vote:

Yeas—6.

Davidson. Ross.
James. Terrell.
Potter. Yantis.

Nays—18.

Atlee. Lloyd.
Burns. Morriss.
Dibrell. Odell.
Greer. Patterson.
Grinnan. Sebastian.
Hanger. Stone.
Johnson. Turney.
Kerr. Wayland.
Lewis. Yett.

Absent.

Goss. McGee.
Gough. Stafford.
Linn.

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

The Senate then refused to adjourn until 3 p. m. today.

The pending bill was then ordered engrossed.

On motion of Senator Greer, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill placed upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—20.

Atlee. Lewis.
Burns. Lloyd.
Davidson. Morriss.
Dibrell. Patterson.
Greer. Ross.
Grinnan. Sebastian.
Hanger. Terrell.
James. Turney.
Johnson. Wayland.
Kerr. Yett.

Nays—4.

Odell. Stone.
Potter. Yantis.

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

The bill was then read a third time, and passed by the following vote:

33—Senate

Yeas—20.

Atlee. Lloyd.
Burns. Morriss.
Davidson. Patterson.
Dibrell. Ross.
Greer. Sebastian.
Grinnan. Stone.
Hanger. Terrell.
Johnson. Turney.
Kerr. Wayland.
Lewis. Yett.

Nays—3.

Odell. Yantis.
Potter.

Absent.

Goss. McGee.
Gough. Stafford.
Linn.

Absent—Excused.

Miller. Neal.

Senator Greer moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and to lay that motion on the table.

Tabled.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE.

The following message from the Governor was received (vetoing Senate bill No. 44):

To the Senate:

After a most careful consideration of Senate bill No. 44, I feel constrained by a sense of public duty to return the same without my approval.

The measure has for its object the increase of the fees of sheriffs and constables, as prescribed in the Act of June 16, 1897. It will be borne in mind that after a long and arduous struggle, the law sought to be amended was enacted by the Twenty-fifth Legislature at a special session. Its consummation was procured only after earnest and persistent effort by my predecessor, notwithstanding the reform which he sought to secure through it had been endorsed and pledged by the Democratic State Convention of August, 1896. Many will remember the struggle that finally resulted in the Act of June 16, 1897. The Democratic State Convention of last year approved the law, as will be seen in the sixteenth plank of its platform. Disclaiming any intention whatever to call in question or to reflect upon the motives of any one who may have supported or voted for the bill under consideration, I will venture to express the opinion that good faith to the political party, whose honors and confidence we enjoy, and to the people generally, forbids an increase at the present time of the fees of office as contemplated by

the bill. Should it become law, the fees of the sheriffs will, I am informed, be practically restored to what they were under Article 1083, Code of Criminal Procedure, and prior to the reform Act of 1896. I am also advised that it will require an increase in the public expenditure aggregating annually from \$20,000 to \$25,000, and that this is a conservative estimate.

Attention is invited to the accompanying communication from the Comptroller of Public Accounts upon the subject, and especially to that portion which refers to the pay of sheriffs and constables when in pursuit of fugitives from justice beyond the State borders. The expense thus incurred and chargeable to the treasury, says he, cannot be estimated with any degree of accuracy. But is this the time for increasing official salaries and fees? Is the condition of the people such that they can easily bear the additional burden sought to be imposed upon them by the bill? These are questions that are pertinent to the issue, and should be answered the one way or the other. It will not be sufficient to say that these officers are not well enough compensated. That will be only an answer in part. Its effect upon the tax-payer must also be considered. Nor will it suffice to say that the increase of expense is but small as compared with three millions of people and the taxable values of the State. The great bulk of the annual appropriations is made mostly of small items and yet they aggregate more than two and a half millions of dollars, exclusive of the amount collected for the support of the public free schools.

When prices are falling in almost every branch of industry and when the exercise of strict economy is required in the matter as well of public as private expenditures, I do not feel inclined to approve any measure involving a draft on the treasury unless proceeding from an undoubted necessity. But were I so disposed, the condition of the treasury, it occurs to me, is such as will not warrant the expenditure called for in the bill. True it is, that my predecessor, in his message to the Legislature, reported a cash balance of \$848,534.52 on January 10, 1899, and to the credit of the general revenue. This was, indeed, a most creditable showing under the circumstances, and the retiring executive merits the gratitude of the people for the economy that was exercised under his administration. But this balance was apparent and not real, and in order to ascertain the true status of the public funds, there must be deducted therefrom the following amounts:

The general deficiency act . . .	\$247,743.42
Advertising constitutional amendments	10,000.00
Amount paid through mistake by the United States to Texas	45,125.56

There may be other deficiencies yet to be paid, but dealing with the question as shown by the foregoing figures, there remains an actual surplus of \$545,665.54 as existing on the 10th day of January, last.

It must also be borne in mind that the surplus shown by my predecessor was in part created by the payment of \$101,113.27 to the State by the United States, and by the amount of penalties collected from railways, \$67,500. In estimating the revenue that is to accrue to the treasury during the present and the next year, it would not be prudent to take into account any funds to come from like sources.

Already has the Legislature appropriated \$214,250, besides the amount carried in the general deficiency bill, and in that for payment of the expense incurred in the publication of proposed amendments to the Constitution, and the general appropriation bill, as passed by the Senate, carries \$2,589,719.45 for the first year and \$2,307,947.20 for the second year, or \$4,897,666.65 for the entire period. The total net receipts of the treasury for the year 1899 is estimated by the Comptroller at \$2,590,000, and for the year 1900, \$2,600,000, or \$5,190,000, which is but \$292,333.35 in excess of the amount carried by the Senate appropriation bill, and deducting therefrom \$214,250 already appropriated and not embraced in the deficiency acts, we find that if the Senate appropriation bill should pass in its present form, we will have approached within \$78,083.35 of the full estimated receipts for the present and coming years. Prudence requires that there should be a margin of at least ten per cent of the estimated receipts, and of which there should be no appropriation; and further, that there should always be a working balance in the treasury of not less than \$300,000, so as to guard against the depreciation of State warrants.

It will also be well to bear in mind that should the Legislature at its present session enact a law to pension ex-Confederate soldiers, there will be required an additional appropriation for the two years of not less than \$400,000. The condition of our several eleemosynary institutions is such as to imperatively demand extensive repairs. One of them—the deaf and dumb asylum—is scarcely tenable. The University and the Ag-

ricultural and Mechanical College deserve and should have increased appropriations over those of the past two years. A failure to provide for the insane, amounting to fully one thousand, who are confined in the county jails, would be reprehensible, indeed.

Considering the condition of the revenue—that which is in the treasury and that anticipated—and the character and amount of the demands that will be very properly made upon it, I have felt it my duty to submit the foregoing facts in connection with the pending bill for such consideration as the Legislature may be pleased to record.

JOSEPH D. SAYERS,
Governor.

OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER,
Austin, Texas, March 11, 1899.

His Excellency J. D. Sayers, Governor.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 10th. enclosing Senate bill No. 44, with request that I furnish you information as to the changes in the present law by each section and subdivision, and also an estimate as to the increase in expenditures should the bill become a law.

The bill seeks to amend Section 4, of Chapter 5, Laws of 1897, which fixes the fees of sheriffs or constables in felony cases in all counties in this State where there shall have been cast, at the next preceding presidential election, 3000 votes or over.

The changes in fees are as follows:

Subdivision 1 increases the fee for executing warrant from 80 cents to \$1.00, and increases the mileage going to the place of arrest from 4 cents to 5 cents.

Subdivision 2 increases the fee for summoning witnesses from 40 cents to 50 cents.

Subdivision 3 increases the fee for summoning a jury from \$1.60 to \$2.00.

Subdivision 4 makes no change in the fee for executing a death warrant.

Subdivision 5 adds 2 cents to each mile traveled for removing a prisoner when traveling by rail or by private conveyance.

Subdivision 5 also provides pay for services of sheriffs or constables in pursuit of a fugitive from justice beyond the State line. Under the present law, the only compensation allowed an officer who goes beyond the limits of the State is when he goes on requisition of the Governor, and is limited to the amount prescribed by the Governor in such cases.

It is impossible to estimate with any degree of certainty this character of expense.

Subdivision 6 increases the mileage from 4 cents to 5 cents.

Subdivision 7 increases the mileage from 4 cents to 5 cents.

Subdivision 8 increases the per diem allowance of officers in conveyance of witnesses from \$1.00 to \$1.50.

Subdivision 9 increases the rate of mileage 2 cents per mile.

The bill as a whole practically restores the fees of sheriffs as provided for under Article 1035, Code Criminal Procedure, which is an increase of about 20 per cent. over fees provided for under Chapter 5, Laws 1897.

It is believed that \$20,000 to \$25,000 per annum would be a conservative estimate of the increase in the expense of this character.

Trusting the above is sufficiently explanatory, I am,

Very truly,
(Signed) R. W. FINLEY,
Comptroller.

The Chair laid the above message before the Senate, and the same was read, and the question put: "*Shall the bill pass notwithstanding the Governor's objections?*"

Senator James moved to postpone further consideration of the bill (its passage over the Governor's objection) till tomorrow, 10 a. m., and that it be made special order for that hour.

Senator Patterson moved to table the motion to postpone.

Carried.

The bill passed (over the Governor's veto) by the following vote:

Yeas—20.

Atlee.	Morriss.
Burns.	Odell.
Davidson.	Patterson.
Dibrell.	Potter.
Greer.	Ross.
Hanger.	Sebastian.
James.	Terrell.
Kerr.	Turney.
Lewis.	Wayland.
Lloyd.	Yett.

Nays—3.

Grinnan.	Yantis.
Stone.	

Absent.

Goss.	Linn.
Gough.	McGee.
Johnson.	Stafford.

Absent—Excused.

Miller.	Neal.
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Senator Potter moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed (over

the Governor's veto), and to lay that motion on the table.

Carried by the following vote:

Yeas—17.

Burns.	Odell.
Davidson.	Potter.
Dibrell.	Ross.
Greer.	Sebastian.
Hanger.	Stone.
Kerr.	Terrell.
Lewis.	Turney.
Lloyd.	Wayland.
Morriss.	

Nays—5.

Atlee.	Yantis.
Grinnan.	Yett.
James.	

Absent.

Stafford.	McGee.
Gough.	Goss.
Johnson.	Patterson.
Linn.	

Absent—Excused.

Miller.	Neal.
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On motion of Senator Kerr, the Senate adjourned until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

FIFTY-FIRST DAY.

Senate Chamber,

Austin, Tex., Wednesday, March 22, 1899.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment. President Pro Tem. Stafford in the chair.

Roll called. Quorum present, the following Senators answering to their names:

Atlee.	McGee.
Burns.	Morriss.
Davidson.	Neal.
Dibrell.	Odell.
Goss.	Patterson.
Gough.	Potter.
Greer.	Ross.
Grinnan.	Sebastian.
Hanger.	Stafford.
James.	Stone.
Johnson.	Terrell.
Kerr.	Turney.
Lewis.	Wayland.
Linn.	Yantis.
Lloyd.	Yett.

Absent.

Miller.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Denson.

Pending the reading of the Journal of yesterday,

On motion of Senator Ross, the same was dispensed with.

EXCUSED.

On motion of Senator Goss, Lieutenant-Governor Browning was excused indefinitely on account of sickness in his family.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 21, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate,

SIR: Your Committee on Enrolled Bills have carefully examined and compared

Senate bill No. 176, being a bill to be entitled "An Act to amend an act entitled 'An Act to incorporate the city of Paris, and to prescribe its duties and liabilities,' adopted by the Twenty-first Legislature of Texas, and approved March 27, 1889, by amending Section 25 of said act and adding Section 31a thereto."

And find the same correctly enrolled, and have this day, at 4 p. m., presented the same to the Governor for his approval.

GRINNAN, Chairman.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 21, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate,

SIR: Your Committee on Enrolled Bills have carefully examined and compared

Senate bill No. 64, being a bill to be entitled "An Act for the better protection of the farmer in the purchase of commercial fertilizers and commercial poisons used for destroying boll worms and other pests,"

And find the same correctly enrolled, and have this day, at 4 p. m., presented the same to the Governor for his approval.

GRINNAN, Chairman.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 16, 1899.

Hon. Jas. N. Browning, President of the Senate,

SIR: Your Committee on Engrossed Bills have carefully examined and compared

Senate bill No. 197, being a bill to be entitled "An Act to appropriate \$15,000 to build and maintain an Orphans' Home for colored children at Corsicana, Texas, and for the purchase of 100 acres of land; to provide for the appointment of a Board of Managers, Superintendent and